

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 25-30 are pending, and are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Vahalia et al. (US 6,275,953) in view of Yachida (US 5,802,591).

Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 25 is patentable over Vahalia et al. and Yachida because, for instance, they do not teach or suggest that the storage system includes a LUN security function therein so that a predetermined host computer of the clustering system can access at least one of a plurality of logical units in the storage system, and changing access control information in the storage system, by the storage system using the LUN security function located therein, for disabling the primary host computer to access the at least one of a plurality of logical unit and enabling the secondary host computer to access the at least one of a plurality of logical units based upon a request for changing the access control information from the management computer.

In the claimed invention, the LUN security function in the storage system controls access to the logical units in the storage system. See Fig. 2 and paragraphs [0022]-[0023] and [0032]. The storage system, using the LUN security function located therein, changes the access control information for disabling access and enabling access based on a request for changing the access control information from the management computer.

In Vahalia et al., the storage subsystem 23 includes file authorization and ownership 115. "The read-only cache of file authorization and ownership 107 caches file authorization and ownership information 115 stored in the cached disk storage subsystem 23. The file authorization information originates from a particular client that first created the file, although the file authorization information could be changed by the system administrator or another client having authority to change the file authorization information. The file ownership information includes an indication that a particular data mover owns the file, and this data mover ownership originates from the display and keyboard server 28." Column 15, lines 52-62. The authorization and ownership information 115 is merely information stored in the storage subsystem 23 relating to authorization and ownership. It is not an LUN security function that controls access to logical units in the storage subsystem. In Vahalia et al., the authentication module 104 for authenticating the client request and the authorization

module 106 for authorizing the requested file access reside in the data mover 101. Therefore, the storage subsystem 23 contains no LUN security function, and does not change access control information for disabling access and enabling access based on a request.

The Examiner cites Yachida for allegedly disclosing an LUN security function physically located in the storage subsystem. Applicant notes that Yachida does not cure the deficiency of Vahalia et al. because Vahalia et al. does not even disclose an LUN security function. Moreover, Applicant believes Yachida also fails to disclose the LUN security function as claimed.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 25 and claims 26-28 depending therefrom are novel and patentable over Vahalia et al. and Yachida.

Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 29 is patentable over Vahalia et al. and Yachida because, for instance, they do not teach or suggest that the storage system includes a LUN security function therein so that a predetermined host computer of the plurality of host computers which include the primary host computer and the secondary host computer can access at least one of a plurality of logical units in the storage system, and changing the access control, by the storage system using the LUN security function located therein, so that the storage system permits access to the logical unit from the secondary host computer based upon a request from the management computer when the secondary host computer takes over processing of the primary host computer.

As discussed above, the authentication module 104 for authenticating the client request and the authorization module 106 for authorizing the requested file access reside in the data mover 101 in Vahalia et al. Therefore, the storage subsystem 23 contains no LUN security function, and does not change access control to permit access based on a request. Yachida does not cure the deficiency of Vahalia et al.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 29 and claim 30 depending therefrom are novel and patentable over Vahalia et al. and Yachida.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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